



Mission •  
to prevent and cure diabetes  
and to improve the lives of all  
people affected by diabetes.

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**Cure • Care • Commitment**

**For Immediate Release**

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## **American Diabetes Association Statement on Pending Medicare Reform Legislation**

Alexandria, VA (November 20, 2003)—The American Diabetes Association is pleased that the Medicare reform legislation pending before Congress contains important improvements to the Medicare program that will benefit many people living with or at risk for diabetes. Some of the new benefits in the package include Medicare Part B coverage of diabetes diagnostic screenings for seniors at risk for diabetes as well as coverage of a one-time, preventive "Welcome to Medicare Physical" for seniors upon entry into the Medicare program.

Additionally, the prescription drug package assists seniors living with diabetes by providing coverage for insulin and syringes, a critical component for seniors that take insulin to manage their diabetes.

Based upon these improvements, the American Diabetes Association supports passage of — and strongly urges Congress to enact — the Medicare package as a way to improve the lives of millions of seniors living with diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes.

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